

By email: Pam Everett, Director of Operational Delivery, Independent Monitoring Authority  
CC: Intelligence Team, Independent Monitoring Authority

23 November 2022

Dear Pam,

Please find attached our latest report for the IMA, which is based on evidence we received directly from, or on behalf of, affected EU citizens and family members. It is focused on the challenges they face when travelling, or wishing to travel, to and from the UK.

In our view, the travel impacts that are currently being felt are but a warning of the problems to come. The UK Government looks intent on rolling out its 'New Plan for Immigration: legal migration and border control strategy' within the next two years. It aims to introduce Electronic Travel Authorisations (ETA) for all visitors to the UK, and implement interactive Advance Passenger Information (iAPI) systems to cater for non-British/Irish UK residents who do not fall under the ETA scheme.

This is set to further increase the digital chasm that is opening up within the UK between British and Irish citizens on the one hand, and all other UK residents on the other. The Government should pause its digital borders programme and first stabilise the shortcomings of the digital-only status that was rapidly created after the UK decided to leave the EU.

We would be grateful if you could respond in writing to our report. Specifically:

- Our report contains 36 recommendations. Please inform us for each whether you accept or reject the recommendation, including what action the IMA will undertake or the reason for rejection, as applicable.
- Our report is evidenced by reports from over 170 respondents using the3million's Report-It tool. As with earlier reports, if you wish to be put in contact with any of these respondents please let us know and we will endeavour to introduce them to the IMA.
- Please provide this response by Friday 13 January 2023.

Kind regards,

Monique Hawkins

Policy and research officer, the3million